

Appl'n No. 10/050,249
Final Amendment and/or Response
Reply to final Office action of 1 March 2004

Page 5 of 6

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-14, and 20 are allowed. The Examiner states that claims 3, 7, 8, and 15-19 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections discussed below. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this indication of patentable subject matter of all the claims.

The final Office action objects to claims 3, 7, 8, and 15-19 for having an alleged inconsistency between the "second reflecting layer" of claims 3 and 15, and the "second reflecting layer" of claims 7, 8, and 16-18. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection. The final Office action (page 2, numbered paragraph 1 of the DETAILED ACTION) indicates that the Examiner believes the "second reflecting layer" of claims 3 and 15 must refer only to the "highly reflecting third layer 205, which layer extends over a few millimeters" (page 7, lines 27-28 of the specification). However, there is nothing in the claims or specification to indicate that the "second reflecting layer" of claims 3 and 15 cannot be read as, for example, the "second reflecting layer 121" that covers the lower side of the cavity (page 4, lines 21-22 of the specification) and also extends over the side faces 13-16 and lower side 12 of the optical waveguide plate (page 4, lines 24-25 of the specification). In fact, claim 3 as originally filed in the application (which included label numbers in the claims, since it is a copy of the priority document that was filed using European patent claim practice) shows reflecting layer 121 as an example on which the "second reflecting layer" of claim 3 can read. (Incidentally, the "layer" of the claim language "the cavities are coated with a second reflecting layer at their lower sides" would be understood by one in the art as reading on a layer that lies at the lower side of the cavities, whether or not light sources 21 within the cavities lie above it.)

In view of the foregoing, applicant(s) respectfully request(s) that the Examiner withdraw the objection(s) and/or rejection(s) of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application to be in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner

Appl'n No. 10/050,249
Final Amendment and/or Response
Reply to final Office action of 1 March 2004

Page 6 of 6

is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric M. Bram
Reg. 37,285
Att'y for Applicant(s)
Philips Intellectual Property
& Standards

P.O. Box 3001
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510-8001
Phone: (914) 333-9635
Fax: (914) 332-06150